Aug. 06	70.84
Sept. 06	61.04
Oct. 06	57.27
Nov. 06	57.80
Dec. 06	60.35
Jan. 06	52.53
Feb. 07	55.88
Average from Apr. 06 to Feb. 07 (upto 22/2/07)	62.74

(The composition of Indian Basket of crude represents average of Oman and Dubai for Sour Grades and Brent (Dated) for Sweet Grade in the ratio of 59.8:40.20)

(c) to (e) On the basis of decline in international prices, the prices of petrol and diesel were reduced on 30.11.2006. It was again reduced on 16.2.2007. The reduction was Rs. 2/- per litre and Re. 1/- per litre for petrol and diesel respectively one each occasion (Delhi Price). It may be noted that the prices of domestic LPG were last revised on 5/11/04. However, the basic prices of PDS Kerosene have not been changed since 1/4/02 despite increase in international prices of both the "products.

Number of tourists visiting India

844. SHRI THENNALA G. BALAKRISHNA PILLAI: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of tourists visited the country during the last one year;

(b) whether it is an increase from the last one year; and

(c) the total income received from tourism in the last year?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI): (a) The estimated number of foreign tourist arrivals to India during 2006 "is 4.43 million.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The foreign exchange earnings from tourism during 2006 are estimated at US$ 6569 million.

Development of tourist projects

†845. SHRI JAI PARKASH AGGARWAL: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) the funds released to the State Governments/Union Territories for development of tourist projects during each of the last three years, State-wise/Union Territory-wise;

(b) whether the funds released for development of tourist projects are not being fully utilized; and

(c) the steps taken/being taken by Government for ensuring the full utilisation of funds released for tourist projects?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI): (a) The funds released to the State Governments/Union Territories for development of tourism projects during each of the last three years, State-wise/Union Territory-wise is at Statement (See below).

(b) and (c) In order to ensure full utilization of funds released, the second instalment is released only after obtaining the utilization certificates of the first instalment from the concerned State/UT Governments. The progress of utilization of funds released is regularly monitored by the Ministry of Tourism through its domestic field offices and also in the meetings with the concerned State/UT Governments.

Statement

State-wise funds released for Tourism Projects during the last three years of Tenth Five Year Plan

Sl. No.	State/UT	Amount Released 2004-05	Amount Released 2005-06	Amount Released 2006-07
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	2240.68	1700.00	795.44
2.	Assam	766.22	1698.45	1809.21

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.